

10/537168
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March 12, 2004

Amendment of the claims under Article 19(1) (Rule 46)

International Application No.: PCT/JP03/15234

International Filing Date: 28.11.03

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Applicant's or Agent's File Reference: JSONY-464PCT

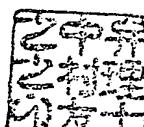
Dear Sirs:

The Applicant, who received the International Search Report relating to the above identified International Application transmitted on 20.01.2004, hereby files amendment under Article 19(1) as in the attached sheets.

In the attached sheets (Sheet Nos. 25 to 27), claim 1 is amended, claims 11 to 20 and 22 are canceled and claims 2 to 10 and 21 are retained unchanged.

Sincerely yours,

弁理士 中村 友之



NAKAMURA, Tomoyuki
Patent Attorney

Attachment:

Amendment under Article 19(1) Sheet Nos. 25 to 27

CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A material for audio equipment housing, characterized by comprising:

5 a biodegradable polymer compound;
an inorganic material; and
a hydrolysis inhibitor;
wherein the material has a specific gravity of 1.3 g/cm³
or more.

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2. The material for audio equipment housing according to Claim 1, characterized in that:

the biodegradable polymer compound is polysaccharide, biodegradable polyester, polyamino acid, polyvinyl alcohol, 15 polyalkylene glycol, a copolymer thereof, or mixture thereof.

3. The material for audio equipment housing according to Claim 2, characterized in that:

the biodegradable polyester is polylactic acid, 20 polycaprolactone, polyhydroxybutyric acid, polyhydroxyvaleric acid, polyethylene succinate, polybutylene succinate, polybutylene adipate, polymalic acid, microbiologically synthetic polyester, a copolymer thereof, or mixture thereof.

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4. The material for audio equipment housing according to Claim 1, characterized in that:

the inorganic material comprises at least one member selected from aluminum hydroxide, magnesium hydroxide, 30 calcium hydroxide, barium sulfonate, calcium carbonate, titanium oxide, alumina, mica, and talc.

5. The material for audio equipment housing according to

Claim 2, characterized in that:

the inorganic material comprises at least one member selected from aluminum hydroxide, magnesium hydroxide, calcium hydroxide, barium sulfonate, calcium carbonate, 5 titanium oxide, alumina, mica, and talc.

6. The material for audio equipment housing according to Claim 3, characterized in that:

the inorganic material comprises at least one member 10 selected from aluminum hydroxide, magnesium hydroxide, calcium hydroxide, barium sulfonate, calcium carbonate, titanium oxide, alumina, mica, and talc.

7. The material for audio equipment housing according to 15 Claim 1, characterized in that:

the hydrolysis inhibitor comprises at least one member selected from a carbodiimide compound, an isocyanate compound, and an oxazoline compound.

20 8. The material for audio equipment housing according to Claim 2, characterized in that:

the hydrolysis inhibitor comprises at least one member selected from a carbodiimide compound, an isocyanate compound, and an oxazoline compound.

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9. The material for audio equipment housing according to Claim 3, characterized in that:

the hydrolysis inhibitor comprises at least one member selected from a carbodiimide compound, an isocyanate compound, 30 and an oxazoline compound.

10. The material for audio equipment housing according to Claim 4, characterized in that:

the hydrolysis inhibitor comprises at least one member selected from a carbodiimide compound, an isocyanate compound, and an oxazoline compound.

- 5 11. (Deleted)
- 12. (Deleted)
- 13. (Deleted)
- 14. (Deleted)
- 15. (Deleted)
- 10 16. (Deleted)
- 17. (Deleted)
- 18. (Deleted)
- 19. (Deleted)
- 20. (Deleted)
- 15
- 21. The material for audio equipment housing according to Claim 1, characterized in that:
 - the audio equipment is a television apparatus, a stereo apparatus, a radio cassette player, or a headphone.
- 20
- 22. (Deleted)